

**RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COORDINATING COMMITTEE**  
**Department of Natural Resources**  
**Room 3710**  
**December 13, 2005**

Minutes

Member Present:

HARTY, Kimm – Utah Geological Survey  
ZAREKARIZI, Susan – State Parks and Recreation  
REICHERT, Michael – DEQ/Division of Water  
WILDE, Ken – DEQ/Division of Drinking Water  
CLARK, Robert – DEQ/Division of Air Quality  
BRADWISCH, William – Division of Wildlife Resources  
MILLIS, Eric – Division of Water Resources  
SCHLOTTHAUER, Bill – Division of Water Rights  
HUTCHINGS, Brent – Division of Wildlife Resources  
GUNNELL, Roy – Utah Department of Agriculture & Food  
DANIELS, Ron – Division of Oil, Gas & Mining  
CHRISTY, Kim – School and Institutional Trust  
Administration  
WILCOX, Richard – School and Institutional Trust  
Lands Administration  
GRIERSON, Dave – Division of Forestry, Fire & State Lands  
GRUBAUGH-LITTIG, Pamela – Division of Oil, Gas & Mining

Others Present:

WRIGHT, Carolyn – Public Lands Section  
LANDURETH, Brenda – Department of Natural  
Resources  
HIGDON, Matthew – Bureau of Land Management  
HANSEN, Michael – GOPB  
ROY, Cordell – National Park Service  
PAYNE, Val – Public Lands Section  
STYLER, Michael – Department of Natural  
Resources  
WEST, Laura Jo – Ashley National Forest, National  
Forest Service  
COTTAM, Brian – GOPB (teleconference)  
SCHWARTZ, Kerry – Bureau of Reclamation  
HASLEM, David – Uintah County

Kimm Harty, Utah Geological Survey, chair, called the meeting to order at approximately 9:00 a.m. Kimm Harty facilitated introductions.

**I. Approval of Minutes/Announcements**

Pamela Grubaugh-Littig moved to approve the November 8, 2005 minutes. Dave Grierson seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.

**II. Special Presentations/Discussions**

Acquisition of Bud Cannon Property in the Red Cliffs Desert Reserve, Washington County, Stephen Hansen

In 1990, the Mojave population of desert tortoise was listed as a threatened species. Approximately 129,100 acres of federal and another 10,500 acres of private land was designated as critical habitat. Washington County jointly manages the Red Cliffs Desert Reserve. The Washington County Habitat Conservation Plan was signed in February 1994 by the Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Utah Department of Natural Resources and the City of Ivins. The Red Cliffs Desert Reserve has 18,600 acres of private and state land in-holdings.

Maps of the proposed acquisition property were also presented to the committee. The support of diverse parties-of-interest in the Habitat Conservation Advisory Committee, which is a multi-agency group of local, state, federal, and public representatives, supports the reserve.

The proposed acquisition is of 101 acres of private ground (the "Bud Cannon property") within the boundaries of the Red Cliffs Desert Reserve. The subject property is comprised of patented mining claims. The property's value was appraised at \$910,000, funding for which will come from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Section 6 funds. Title will vest with the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources. A state match (of 10% of the purchase value) was being provided by an encumbrance on Utah State Parks and Recreation property at the mouth of Snow Canyon. Desert tortoises translocated to this property are doing well. The area is fenced to exclude livestock.

State Parks and Recreation (SPR) may be impacted due to Johnson Canyon would be encumbered by Section 6, which indicates that full NEPA will be required for any actions.

In the future, two additional proposed acquisitions will be submitted to RDCC (Winding Rivers, SITLA Ivin's Parcel).

### **III. Reports from Agencies on Any Anticipated Projects**

Kimm Harty, Utah Geological Survey, chair, met with the Department of Natural Resources directors to discuss RDCC priority items, department coordination of comments and unified voice on state actions.

Tim Garcia, U.S. Forest Service, reported that the Ashley, Dixie and the Fish Lake National Forests Resource Management Plans will be revised. Planning will guide future management.

Val Payne, Public Lands Section, reported that his office is very involved in Vernal, Price, Moab, Monticello and Escalante are ongoing

Michael Hansen, Governor's Office of Planning and Budget, announced that all agencies should be aware that planning efforts around the state are pressuring counties. The on-line planning tool will help with the transfer and dissemination of information. All state actions should be reviewed by the state planning coordinator.

Susan Zarekarizi, SPR, mentioned that some resource management plan efforts and management actions have not been reviewed by RDCC. According to the State Code all activities must be reviewed. Carolyn Wright will ask John Harja about updating the RDCC agency memorandum of understanding. Many agency people are confused regarding the review of specific actions by RDCC versus how cooperating agency review occurs. RDCC review helps eliminate inaccuracies and improves coordination among state agencies.

There is interest to involve and engage Utah counties in the planning efforts and state action review process. The roadless issue and Nevada water project are examples of efforts that are of interest to local governments. The on-line tool will make it easier to track state and local actions.

Rick Wilcox and Kim Christy, School and Trust Lands Administration reported that an appraisal for the Range Creek parcel has been completed. Mike Styler and Kevin Carter are working on these issues.

Patty Mountain block is a high profile project. The preliminary draft plan has been complete. The final document will be available summer of 2006 after several public hearings.

Laura Joe West is a national forest planner working with the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget (GOPB) on the socio-economic section of the plan. The U.S. Forest Service has changed their forest plan format to a visioning approach with a description of desired conditions. This type of planning will create an umbrella document and will bring people to the table without issue polarization. Program and site-specific planning decision-making will be made during project planning.

Brian Cottam, GOPB, mentioned that their office is preparing for the legislative session. The McCallister Fund has provided over \$3M to various projects around the state. The remaining critical lands funding will be used for a floodplain-mapping project in Box Elder County. AGRC is trying to help and they hope that some Federal Emergency Management Agency will be able to contribute.

Uintah and Daggett comprehensive trails planning meeting will be held in January, the GOPB Outdoor Tourism project. Tourism staff support will be conducting a one-year survey. A task force will consist of voluntary meetings with counties to resolve outdoor industry issues in Grand, Uintah and Sevier County. Negotiation is preferred over legislation or litigation. The task force will identify "gem sites" or the best recreations sites in the state and start coordinating with counties to resolve issues and concerns, such as site protection, tourism, search and rescue, hunting, boating, recreation vehicle and other transportation issues.

Cordell Roy, National Park Service, mentioned that national parks count and control access to monitor recreational use. Some states require those participating in outdoor activities must purchase a \$3 insurance card to cover emergency search and rescue efforts.

Eric Millis, Division of Water Resources, reported that basin management plans of the southwest section of the state begin and public meetings will be held in spring of 2006. Utah Lake and Jordan River Basin planning will be completed over the next two years. The water needs of Synderville Basin will be determined this spring. Kerry Schwartz,

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, mentioned that the Synderville Basin funding will be provide through a state write-in during the legislative session.

Central Iron County Water Conservancy District is working on meeting their water needs. Cloud seeding efforts for 2006 will be initiated soon.

Bob Clark, Division of Air Quality (DAQ), announced that Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) approved the Carbon Monoxide Maintenance Plan for Utah County. The approval will be effective January 3, 2006. DAQ will be conducting particulate monitoring in Cache County this winter. An ozone maintenance plan for Salt Lake and Davis Counties is being developed and will be submitted to EPA in early 2007. The plan will demonstrate ozone maintenance in Salt Lake and Davis Counties through 2014. The one hour ozone standard has been revoked and replaced by a more stringent 8-hour standard.

Dave Grierson, Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands, reported that the oil and gas leasing permit on Great Salt Lake has been challenged. A consistency review has been ordered and the lease is pending. Friends of Great Salt Lake, Great Salt Lake Audubon, National Audubon Society and the Sierra Club are working with attorneys and claim that the RDCC process for the public is insufficient. No environmental comments were received.

All-terrain vehicle planning is a good example. Rural communities provide opportunities for city residents to recreate and escape. This creates problems and issues for counties. Oil and gas development boom in Uinta County has created a demand for lodging. Approximately 90% of the lodging is rented by the oil and gas industry. We need to all improve coordination with counties and cities.

Pamela Grubaugh-Littig announced that the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining (DOGM) is working on the permitting of the Lila Canyon extension to the Horse Canyon Mine. The Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance contesting this coal permit. Ron Daniels, DOGM, reported that a record number of applications for drilling permits have been received (1,600), and 700 have been completed this year. This is a record increase from 1,100 in 2004. Additional funding to support several new positions to help with permitting in the state has helped initiate new oil and gas drilling. New rules will be published on January 25, 2006, will now require bonding for small mining operations to ensure reclamation.

Matthew Higdon, Bureau of Land Management reported Kanab Resource Management Plan (RMP) will have a 30-day review of the draft Wild and Scenic River eligibility report and the draft Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) report. The draft reports will be available online on December 19, 2005. The monument livestock and Grazing draft EIS is near completion. The BLM Washington Office will review the document for 3-4 months. The Price interim EA for winter drilling (Bill Barrett Corp proposal) proposes the drilling of at least 40 wells in winter. Several wildlife issues and impacts will need to be considered. The EA is scheduled to be completed in 4-5 months.

The Oil Shale/Tar Sands and is a programmatic national EIS. Scoping meetings in Colorado, Utah and Wyoming. The first scoping meeting will be held in Salt Lake City, 1-3 p.m. or 7-10 p.m. at Little America. Public scoping meetings will be held in Price on January 11th and Vernal on January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2006.

Drinking water issues:

Kennecott groundwater pollution treatment and plant testing

Subdivisions now have new higher water pressure rules

Task forces is needed to deal with pressure zones (change from 20 to 40 psi)

Replacement of existing infrastructure

Magna a new \$4M grant to produce rocket propellant will produce arsenic and perchlorate.

A \$4M public bond will be required to treat these contaminants, pull a sewer line and to set up a bacteria treatment facility to consume perchlorate. A hearing for arsenic will be held and exemptions may apply for a few years until they can blend the contaminant within safe levels.

Kearns will need \$50,000 to fix their treatment plant to remove toxins.

Cordell Roy, National Park Service reported that the draft proposal for economic value study and research for the Colorado River will begin for ten parks along the river. The NPS is looking for partners to participate. The Daggett County NPS trails project has limited funding and staff but is supported by the community. A name change has been requested for Chinaman's Arch.

Mike Styler, Executive Director, for the Utah Department of Natural Resources support RDCC and their efforts.

#### **IV. Review of Proposed Items as Listed on the Project Management Library**

A handout of the current status of the RDCC Project Management System was provided to the committee. No items were discussed.

#### **V. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:50 a.m. by a motion from Susan Zarekarizi and then seconded by Pamela Grubaugh-Littig. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 10, 2005, at 9:00 a.m., in room 3710.

#### **Other Items Discussed**

Kimm Harty, chair, stated how the committee appreciated that all three federal partners were present at the RDCC meeting.